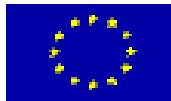




МІНІСТЕРСТВО
АГРАРНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ УКРАЇНИ



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Проект впроваджується
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International

*Implementation of Ukrainian's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural
sector
EuropeAid/126205/C/SER/UA*

Agricultural/rural sector news digest 12-18 of November 2009

▪ WTO and Neighborhood Policy

The third round of negotiations on Free Trade Agreement between Ukraine and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) was held in Geneva, November 3 – 6, said the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine. According to the report, Ukrainian delegation included experts of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. The parties continued to negotiate on chapters of the draft Free Trade Agreement within six separate working groups. It is reported that the parties have made significant progress in all areas of negotiations, particularly in working groups trade in goods, including agricultural goods, and on access to service markets.

The parties agreed to hold next round of talks in February 2010 in Kiev.

Reference:

The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) was established in 1960 by the Stockholm Convention. EFTA has only four members: Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The three EFTA countries (except Switzerland) are part of the EU common market through the Treaty of the European Economic Area adopted in 1994.

<http://www.unian.net/>, 14.11.09

Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko said that the result of his visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will be joint projects worth billions. Speaking of concrete agreements, Victor Yushchenko said that the UAE want to cooperate with Ukraine, in the agricultural sector including. It is already agreed that UAE will develop 50-100 thousands hectares in Ukraine. Viktor Yushchenko noted that representatives of the Emirates are interested not only in the joint cultivation of agricultural plants but also in joint animal husbandry projects. At the same time, Victor Yushchenko stressed that it is very important for Ukraine to find new markets for its agro-industrial products.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 17.11.2009

▪ Food Safety

In the third quarter of 2009 regional consumer protection agencies of the Committee for Consumer Standards have checked 73 thousand litres of juices and juice drinks worth 351 thousand UAH. 28 thousand litres worth 138 thousand UAH (38% of products checked) were

rejected and removed from sale. 5% of the products were rejected and withdrawn from sale due to lack of relevant, accessible, reliable and timely information on the product; 31% - due to lack of certificates of conformity or certificate of recognition in accompanying documents; 91% - due to lack of supporting documents, including quality and safety confirming documents, 1% - sale of goods with past shelf life or expired goods.

www.agroua.net, 12.11.2009

Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko signed the Law on postponing to January 1, 2015 the ban on placing home produced and slaughtered food on market Previously it was assumed that the ban on the sale of home slaughtered meat and dairy products will come into force January 1, 2010. The adoption of this law was necessary for Ukraine's accession to the WTO.

The Cabinet was instructed to develop and approve the State Program of creating and opening milk collection points and slaughter-houses for animals kept in farms and annually provide the Program activities funding in the state budget.

<http://www.unian.net/>, 13.11.09

In 2009 the State Department of Veterinary Medicine of Ukraine conducted selective advanced veterinary and sanitary control of imported animal products. According to the results, 47 cases of discrepancies with the requirements adopted were revealed. These products were produced by enterprises of the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Republic of Brazil, USA, the Netherlands, Poland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Republic of Austria, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and other countries. Only accredited by the ISO 17025 standards state veterinary laboratories examine imported livestock products. The accreditation was carried out by national and international (DAP Germany) certification agencies.

MAP Press Service, 13/11/2009

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The Cabinet was instructed to develop and approve the State Program of creating and opening milk collection points and slaughter-houses for animals kept in farms in three months, and annually provide the Program activities funding in the state budget.

<http://www.unian.net/>, 13.11.09

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MAP Press Service, 13/11/2009

Almost 90% Ukrainians are against importing products containing GMOs says the report of telephone surveys conducted by the Gorshenin Institute November 13-15, 2009. The experts made the following conclusions according to the nationwide research: the majority of Ukrainians (85.6%) know about GMO and possible consequences of GMO products. Only 12.1% of respondents do not have relevant information and 2.3% - found it difficult to answer this question. The vast majority of Ukrainians (93.4%) believes it is necessary to introduce a mandatory labelling of products containing GMOs.

The majority of Ukrainians (89.7%) believe that Parliament should adopt the Law prohibiting GMO products importation and manufacturing. The majority of Ukrainian (74.7%) would not buy foods labelled "as GMO containing product", even if they are cheaper than GMO free products. 10.7% of respondents are buying products with GMO, while 14.6% regard it to be difficult to answer this question

<http://www.unian.net/>, 17.11.2009

▪ **Market Infrastructure**

Minister of Agrarian Policy Yuriy Melnyk said that a part of the domestic sugar factories will be reoriented to the production of biofuels in 2010. "In my opinion, a part of sugar factories in 2010 will be reoriented towards production of beet biofuel ingredients and gasoline mixture containing biological components," - said the Minister. He also noted that 50-60% of such projects are ready. This will contribute towards the entry into force on January 1, 2010 of the provisions of the Law on granting tax preferences to producers of biofuel, believes Melnyk. The document allows the customs- and VAT-free import of equipment for biofuels production and 5 years income tax exemption for biofuels producers.

Interfax-Ukraine, 16.11.2009

Minister of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine Yuriy Melnyk hopes that the Government will support creation of state grain market operator initiated by the Ministry. "We're working on it. The draft Cabinet Resolution is now being agreed upon in ministries and departments. We do not hope for easy adoption since one encounters departmental interests. But we rely on the Government support" - said the Minister. He believes that creating a single state grain trader will save the budget.

Interfax-Ukraine, 16.11.2009

As for November 1, 2009 the number of cattle in all categories of farms decreased, compared with November 1, 2008, by 3.6% or 200.8 thousand heads to 5 million 398,9 thousand heads. 69.1% of the total number of cattle (in 2008 - 68.3%), including cows 78.3% (78.4%) are maintained in households as for November 1, reported the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine. The number of cows on all farms fell by 5.5% or 165.4 thousand heads against the same last year's figure to 2 million 827.3 thousand heads.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 17.11.2009

▪ **Rural Development**

Parliament repealed the law "On State Land Cadastre". The President vetoed and returned to the Parliament previously adopted law "On State Land Cadastre" with his proposals. Profile Committee considered the relevant document and offered to adopt the Law with President's proposals. This proposal was supported by only 162 deputies out of 439 registered in the assembly hall. The law is abolished.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 17.11.2009

Verkhovna Rada Information Department reported that the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on 17-12-09 repeatedly adopted the Law on the alienation of land of private property for public and social needs "(№ 3682). The Law determines legal, organizational and financial principles of social relations that arise during alienation of land for social and public needs. According to the Law, "expropriation of land and other real estate, which are located or owned by individuals or entities, shall be done only as an exception for public need and shall be the subject to complete

compensation of their value in accordance with the law. "

In addition, purchase and expropriation of land for public needs shall be undertaken as an exception from compliance with environmental safety requirements with further ensuring the rational use of land if using other lands directly cause considerable damage or adverse environmental effects.

www.myland.org.ua, 18.11.09